

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ABU DH 00139 190920Z

15

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 190430Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 0139

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, TC

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO OPEC GOVERNMENTS

REF: STATE 745

1. SINCE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM OTAIBA OUT OF TOWN (AS USUAL) I CALLED ON FONMIN SUWAIDI JANUARY 16 TO MAKE ORAL PRESENTATION REFTEL AND LEAVE WITH HIM AIDE MEMOIRE.

2. SUWAIDI SAID HE APPRECIATED OUR KEEPING UAEG INFORMED. HE ASKED WHEN WE THOUGHT PRODUCER/CONSUMER CONFERENCE MIGHT BE HELD. I SAID I HAD NO INDICATION OF TIMING IN THESE LATEST INSTRUCTIONS BUT THAT I HAD EARLIER SEEN MARCH MENTIONED AS EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE, AND THAT WAS ON ASSUMPTION NECESSARY PREPARATORY STEPS HAD BEEN COMPLETED BY THAT TIME. I STRESSED OUR VIEW THAT CAREFUL PREPARATION FOR CONFERENCE WAS ESSENTIAL--THAT WE SAW NO POINT AND INDEED CONSIDERABLE HARM IF CONFERENCE WERE TO FAIL BECAUSE OF INADEQUATE PREPARATION. SUWAIDI INQUIRED FURTHER ABOUT OUR VIEW ON PREPARATIONS. I SAID IT STRUCK ME AS UNLIKELY THAT CONFERENCE COULD ACCOMPLISH MUCH IF THERE HAD BEEN NO PRIOR EFFORT TO COORDINATE POSITIONS. I MENTIONED OTHER ASPECT OF PREPARATIONS--BASIC DECISIONS BY CONSUMERS ON THEIR OWN NATIONAL PROGRAMS--AND SAID US WAS IN PROCESS OF DOING THIS NOW. EMBASSY HAD JUST RECEIVED FACT SHEET ON PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM AND I WAS ABLE TO BRIEF SUWAIDI ON MAIN POINTS.

3. SUWAIDI SAID HE WOULD BRING AIDE MEMOIRE TO ATTENTION OTAIBA
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WHEN HE RETURNED (I WILL ALSO DO SO) AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION

FOR MY ASSURANCE THAT WE WOULD STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH HIM AS
PREPARATIONS FOR CONFERENCE PROGRESSED.
STERNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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